AF GP 37

AUG 0 2 2004 AUG

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)

Brodeur et al.

Examiner:

Thaler, M.H.

Serial No.:

09/723,852

Group Art Unit:

3731

Confirmation No.:

6459

Docket:

760-19 RCE II

Filed:

November 28, 2000

Dated:

July 29, 2004

For:

COMPOSITE TUBULAR

PROSTHESES

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

on July 29, 2004

Signed:/_

RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated April 30, 2004, the following response is being submitted. Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Application is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Amendments to the Specification being on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to Drawings begin on page 8 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.